

# The Nutmeg

*Newsletter of the Nutmeg Woodturners  
League  
Established June 14, 1989*



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[www.nutmegwoodturners.com](http://www.nutmegwoodturners.com)

## **NEXT MEETING**

Monday, Sep 10, 2012

Program: Good Turning Begins With Sharp Tools

By Buster Shaw

Brookfield Craft Center

Route 25, Brookfield, CT

6 to 7 pm – Informal Gathering, Library Open

7:00 pm – Club Business

7:30 pm – Program

### **OFFICERS**

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President	Buster Shaw
Vice President	Jim Degen
Treasurer	Allen Nemetz
Newsletter Editor	Wade Anderson
Photographer	open
Membership Chairman	Dick Hoblitzell
Librarian	Dick Hoblitzell
Webmaster	Carl Ford
Demonstrator Chairman	open
Learn & Turn Coordinator	Joe Maiorano

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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Buster Shaw
Jim Degen
Allen Nemetz
Jay Hockenberry
Bill Kravarik
Don Metz
Carl Ford
Ken Rist

# Presidents Page Sep 2012

## 1. Lathe Safety

- a. Please remember both bandsaw and lathe safety!
  - i. I have heard of too many people being hurt on the bandsaw lately.
- b. Safety is your first priority.

## 2. The Club needs you to be involved!

- a. We have an opening on the Board of Directors. The job does not take a lot of time, just a meeting or two per year.
  - i. Thank you Tony Bedini for your years on the board.
- b. Raffle Chairman, someone to run the raffle at the meetings, contact suppliers for raffle items.

## 3. Learn & Turn

- a. Thanks goes out to Joe Larese for hosting the June L&T.
- b. Need some to host the Oct. L&T.

## 4. AAW 2012 Symposium

- a. I had the pleasure of being on a Panel Discussion on “Effective Teaching & Demonstrating” with David Ellsworth, Michael Hosaluk, and Graeme Priddle at the symposium. What a group to be with!
- b. Next year’s symposium is in Tampa; I am going, are you?
- c. Check out Buster's bio at the end of the newsletter (editors note).

## 5. American Woodturner & Nutmeg Woodturners

- a. I am so proud of our members who write articles for the American Woodturner.
  - i. Joe Larese, June 2012 – Learning to Avoid Spiral Catches.
  - ii. David Heim, August 2012- Beth Ireland Hasn't Finished Turning Around America
  - iii. Josh Friend, August 2012-The Remarkable Hansel Collins

## 6. Return to the Community Charity Donations

- a. Thank you to the members that donated to "Empty Bowls", over \$1700.00 was raised.

## 7. Club Picnic

- a. Good food and good company always makes for a good time.

## 8. Binh Pho coming to Brookfield Craft Center

- a. We are pleased to welcome renowned woodturner Binh Pho to our turning studio for a full-day demo on Sunday September 9th. Binh will captivate you with his stories of inspiration and intricate techniques of thin wall turning and pierced surfaces. Escaping from communist Vietnam in the 1970s shaped Binh Pho's appreciation of freedom, life and expression. Topics of this full-day demo will include thin wall turning, end grain vessel turning, a slide show and lecture on Binh's inspiration, airbrushing techniques, piercing and texturing. Lunch is included during a mid-day break. Space is limited to 25 participants for this unique experience. Don't wait to register...we expect a sell-out.
- b. **Check out this link:** <http://store.brookfieldcraftcenter.org/Spend-the-Day-with-Binh-Pho-p/wt3112.htm>

## 9. Easy Wood Tools at Woodworkers Club in Norwalk

- a. Craig Jackson the owner of "Easy Wood Tools" will be here showing you how easy it is to start and enjoy turning. The "Easy Wood Tools" allow you to turn small and large projects quickly with a great finish, ready to sand. These remarkable tools reduce the learning curve and allow anyone to get fast results when turning. Come in meet Craig Jackson and try these tools. These tools are great for beginners and have amazed long time turners.
- b. **Check out this link:** <http://www.woodworkersclubnorwalk.com/ProductDetails.asp?ProductCode=C1124>

## 10. Sep Demo – Good Turning Begins With Sharp Tools By Buster Shaw

- a. Using the WOLVERINE Grinding Jig is the will ultimately **save you time, frustration and money**. You can grind your tools properly the first time. Uniform cutting edges and single facet bevels will give you safer, more predictable tools. Because you are grinding your tools less, both your wheels and tools will last longer.
- b. Raptor Set Up Tools – I will also demonstrate this set up tools.
- c. Please bring in any tools that need sharpening or critique.
- d. **Check out these links:**

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[http://www.oneway.ca/sharpening/grind\\_jig.htm](http://www.oneway.ca/sharpening/grind_jig.htm)

<http://www.woodturnerscatalog.com/woodturners/Images/pdfs/raptor.pdf>

## 11. Show And Tell.

- a. Anyone who brings in an item (2 items max) for the **Show & Tell** will be entered in a random drawing for a \$50 Gift Certificate from Packard Woodworks.

Keep a Sharp Edge

***BUSTER***

## Buster Shaw

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My woodturning adventure started in 1989 when I purchased a Shopsmith MultiTool, wanting to make some turned legs for a table. Well, let me tell you what a disaster that was.

Not many books on woodturning were available at that time, so I became self taught! After a lot of cussing and sanding, the table still stands proudly in a daughter's home. But I was hooked!

Questions kept going through my head. What am I doing wrong? What the heck is rubbing the bevel? How do you sharpen these tools? And more.

My wife, Christa, finally got tired of hearing foul language coming from the shop and presented me with a gift certificate for a woodturning class at the Brookfield Craft Center in Brookfield CT. The instructor was Andy Barnum, and I owe him, big time! Calling himself a lathe guy, he is a professional woodturner and teaches turning at Purchase College of SUNY.

Andy started the Nutmeg Woodturners in 1989, meeting at the Brookfield Craft Center, one of the oldest clubs in the AAW. I joined Nutmeg right away, and at present I am the president ... and also a member of Central Connecticut Woodturners.

Well a few years went by,



and I was asked to do a demo at a club meeting. I was scared to death, so I practiced at home for weeks. The demo must have gone over well because Andy asked, "Have you ever considered teaching?" Well, I started out easy, teaching pens at the Woodworker Club in Norwalk CT. Soon I was asked to teach at the Brookfield Craft Center and for the past few years at Peters Valley Craft Center in New Jersey.

Teaching beginner and intermediate classes has given me a great deal of satisfaction, and I would rather teach a class than work in my own shop. Have you ever seen the smile on a kid's face the first time they turn a pen? How about starting someone on a cottage industry of making salt and pepper mills or seeing one of your students featured in the New York Times newspaper? How about an 80-year-old-plus with arthritis make a cracker platter with cutting board insert that was on their bucket list?

Christa is a noted Nantucket basket maker, and she keeps me very busy making molds, bases, and lids with finials for her baskets. Of course, she keeps all the money from the sales – need you ask?! Anyway making jigs for the lathe to produce these products has called upon my engineering background at times. It is



demanding work because she insists on exact duplication.

Doing demonstrations and teaching have a lot in common. The first thing you must think about is safety. With the horrible accidents that have happened over the past few years, safety must be our first priority!

Wear your face mask at all times. I know it gets in the way when talking, but people will think that, if you don't wear it, they don't have to, either. It's the monkey see, monkey do syndrome.

Teaching woodturning is similar to performing demonstrations ... being well prepared is essential! Download a great instructional guide, *Teaching Woodturning Basics*, from the member's area of the AAW website. If you follow its basic outline, your teaching experience will be a success.

- Have wood prepped
- Sharpen your tools at home
- Look professional
- Have handouts, if applicable



# Buster Shaw